

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20(Canceled)

21.(Currently amended) An ultrasonic surgical instrument comprising:
a waveguide having a proximal end and a distal end;
an ultrasonically actuated blade positioned at the distal end of the waveguide, wherein the blade comprises:
a distal end;
a proximal end;
a curved treatment portion, and the curved treatment portion comprising
at least one functional asymmetry, wherein the functional asymmetry is positioned to counter torque created by the curved treatment portion; [and]
a clamp member rotatably supported adjacent to the blade; and
[a rotatable] an operating element operatively associated with the [waveguide] clamp member and blade, [the rotatable element being rotated] the operating element moveable to cause corresponding rotation of the [waveguide] clamp member and blade about a longitudinal axis of the instrument.

22.(Previously presented) The ultrasonic surgical instrument of claim 21, wherein the functional asymmetry extends from the distal end of the blade to a point within the treatment portion.

23.(Previously presented) The ultrasonic surgical instrument of claim 21, wherein the functional asymmetry extends from the distal end of the blade to a point proximal to the treatment portion.

24.(Currently amended) An ultrasonic surgical instrument comprising:

a handle including an ultrasonic handpiece;
an ultrasonic waveguide having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the proximal end is operatively connected to the handpiece;
a blade connected to the distal end of the waveguide, wherein the blade comprises:
a distal end;
a proximal end connected to the waveguide; and
a curved treatment portion including at least one functional asymmetry, wherein the functional asymmetry is positioned to counter torque created by the curved treatment portion; [and]
a clamp member rotatably supported adjacent to the blade; and
[a rotatable] an operating element operatively associated with the [waveguide] clamp member and blade, [the rotatable element being rotated] the operating element moveable to cause corresponding rotation of the [waveguide] clamp member and blade about a longitudinal axis of the instrument.

25.(Previously presented) The surgical instrument of claim 24, wherein the functional asymmetry is positioned such that transverse vibrations are substantially equal to zero.

26.(Canceled)

27.(Previously presented) The ultrasonic surgical instrument of claim 21, wherein the functional asymmetry is a spherical cut.

28.(Previously presented) The ultrasonic surgical instrument of claim 24, wherein the functional asymmetry is a spherical cut.

29.(Currently amended) An ultrasonic surgical instrument comprising:
a waveguide having a proximal end and a distal end;
an ultrasonically actuated blade positioned at the distal end of the waveguide, wherein the blade comprises:
a distal end;
a proximal end;

a curved treatment portion, and the curved treatment portion comprising
at least one functional asymmetry; and
a clamp member rotatably supported adjacent to the blade and having an open position in which at least a portion of the clamp member is spaced from the blade and a closed position in which the clamp member is adjacent to the blade.

30.(Previously presented) The ultrasonic surgical instrument of claim 29, wherein the functional asymmetry extends from the distal end of the blade to a point within the treatment portion.

31.(Previously presented) The ultrasonic surgical instrument of claim 21, wherein the functional asymmetry extends from the distal end of the blade to a point proximal to the treatment portion.

32.(Previously presented) The ultrasonic surgical instrument of claim 29 further comprising a rotatable element operatively associated with the waveguide, the blade and clamp member, the rotatable element being rotated to cause corresponding rotation of the waveguide, the blade and the clamp member about a longitudinal axis of the instrument.